Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 CAIRO 11968 050803Z

14

ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 INRE-00 CIAE-00 (ISO) $\ensuremath{\mathrm{W}}$

----- 127074

O 050730Z SEP 76

FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 6768

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV NIACT IMMEDIATE

CONFIDENTIAL CAIRO 11968

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS TAGS: PFOR US IS EG

SUBJECT: ISRAELI ACTIONS IN GULF OF SUEZ

REF: (A) TEL AVIV 6100 (B) CAIRO 11954

- 1. FOLLOWING MESSAGE DRAFTED BY AMBASSADOR EILTS AT AIRPORT PRIOR TO HIS DEPARTURE THIS MORNING.
- 2. I REGRET THAT LANGUAGE OF CAIRO 11954 SEEMED TO SUGGEST WHAT EMBASSY TEL AVIV SHOULD DO. THIS WAS NOT OUR INTENTION. WE WERE SIMPLY CONCERNED THAT, AS HAS BEEN SHOWN IN PAST CASES, MFA (AND PRESUMABLY ALLON) MIGHT NOT HAVE FULL PICTURE.
- 3. OUR CONCERN ABOUT ALLON'S APPARENT DESIRE TO TEMPORIZE, I.E. WAIT TO DISCUSS MATTER WHEN HE ARRIVES IN U.S., IS PROMPTED BY FACT THAT AMOCO MUST UNDER ITS CONCESSION DRILL AT LEAST ONE EXPLORATORYWELL IN 304 BLOCK BEFORE SEPTEMBER 21. SITE 304.1 IS MOST WESTERLY PART OF BLOCK 304. FOR AMOCO TIME IS RUNNING OUT.
- 4. CLEARLY ISRAELI AND AMOCO/EGYPTIAN REPORTS OF WHAT HAPPENED YESTERDAY ARE FAR APART. WE DO NOT BELIEVE THERE HAS BEEN ANY DELIBERATE DISTORTION OF WHAT OCCURRED UNDER VERY TENSE CIRCUMSTANCES. DETAILS OF INCIDENT ASIDE, FACT REMAINS THAT ISRAELI GUNBOATS DID "MAKE THINGS DIFFICULT" FOR AMOCO, AS ALLON SAID THEY WOULD, AND AMOCO WAS PREVENTED FROM CONFIDENTIAL

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EXERCISING ITS RIGHTS AND OBLIGATIONS UNDER CONCESSION.

THE OFFICIAL POSITION OF THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT,
AS WE UNDERSTAND IT FROM DEPT'S INSTRUCTIONS, IS THAT WE RECOGNIZE
AND SUPPORT AMOCO'S RIGHT TO DRILL IN ITS CONCESSION AREA. WE
DO NOT BELIEVE THAT ISRAEL SHOULD BY FAIT ACCOMPLI BE PERMITTED
TO OBSTRUCT THIS RIGHT AND TO DEFY THE USG TO DO ANYTHING ABOUT
IT

5. I THEREFORE REPEAT SUBSTANCE OF RECOMMENDATIONS MADE IN REF (B).

MATTHEWS

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NNN

Message Attributes

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Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED

Concepts: PERSONAL OPINION, HARASSMENT, EXPLORATORY DRILLING, OFFSHORE OIL FIELDS

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TAGS: PFOR, ENRG, US, IS, EG, AMOCO, (EILTS, HERMANN F)
To: STATE TEL AVIV

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